

NEWCOMER FARM, HOUSE
(Mount Pleasant)
Boonsboro Pike (Near Middle Bridge)
Sharpsburg Vicinity
Washington County
Maryland

HABS NO. MD-941

HABS
MD,
22-SHARP.V,
32-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

NEWCOMER FARM, HOUSE

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32-

Location: Boonsboro Pike, Near Middle Bridge, Sharpsburg
Vicinity, Washington County, Maryland

Significance: Architecturally, the Newcomer house is a typical
example of a regional log house. Its proximity to
the middle bridge lends the Newcomer house further
historical significance.

Description: Located near the west bank of Antietam Creek, this
two-story clapboard-covered log dwelling faces
south toward the Boonsboro Pike. Like many houses
in the region, the Newcomer house is L-shaped. The
main block is a three-bay dwelling set on very low
stone foundations. A one-story shed porch
supported by chamfered square posts extends along
its front elevation. A two-story, four-bay ell,
also of log, extends to the rear. Its double porch
sits along the entire east wall of the ell and is
framed under the wing's roof span. The raised seam
tin roof of the main section is side-gabled and
steeply pitched with three high brick interior
chimneys located inside each gable end and at the
junction of the two sections. The entire
structure is covered with beaded weatherboard
displaying no decorative trim. The windows are of
the common six-over-six-light type.

South of the Boonsboro Pike (Rt. 34), sits the
Newcomer barn. It too is typical of the barns in
the region due to its stone foundation and its bank
design.

History: Built ca. 1800, the Newcomer house is typical of
the log structures built in this area. Notable is
the full-width, shed-roofed porch which allowed
houses of this type to have shelter from hot sun
and sudden storms.

The house is significant to the Civil War Battle of
Antietam due to its close proximity to Antietam
Creek and the Middle Bridge. This bridge was
strategic in the movement of troops. Both the
Middle Bridge and the Newcomer buildings are
present in several Alexander Gardner photographs.

Sources: Antietam National Battlefield Site, National
Register of Historic Places nomination form, 1981

Historian: Martha Wagner
HABS, 1991